

THIS MONTH WE SALUTE
THE WEST FLORIDA and
FORT WALTON BEACH
AMATEURS
(SEE STORY BELOW)

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FLORIDA SKIP

Vol. 11 No. 9

The All-Florida Radio Amateur's Publication

FEBRUARY 1968

Price 20c

Ft. Walton Beach Tornado Report

By Frank Butler, W4RKH

A severe tornado struck the Fort Walton Beach, Fla. area on Sunday morning, December 10, 1967, at about 0230 local time. EC W4MMW activated the two local VHF nets, on 145.2 and 146.94 Mc., and assigned stations to the Section HF Net on 3957 Kc.

Portable stations were setup on 2m (AM & FM) at the following locations: Red Cross office, City CD Office, and at a temporary Command Post established in a trailer in the center of the tornado area.

Two meter mobiles were dispatched initially to survey the
(Continued on Page 13)

New QSL Bureau

By Howard Kelley, K4DSN

There are very few members in our amateur service who are willing to stick their necks out and volunteer for one of the toughest, time consuming and perhaps most frustrating tasks -- the QSL Bureau Manager.

You would think that Pat Parrish, K4HXF, would have learned his lesson as the Fifth Call Area QSL Bureau chief, but he volunteered again and now heads the W4/K4 card center. He relieved the Chattanooga ham club who decided the job was a bit much and who were about to lose their building.

Pat, a 19-year ham veteran and DXCC Honor Roll member (under the call of W5PSB) says, "Barring unforeseen difficulties there should be a regular



TORNADOES ARE KILLERS! Here is a shot taken from the air shortly after one hit Fort Walton Beach on December 10, 1967. One of those houses belonged to WA4THJ. It was a total loss. The Fort Walton Beach and other West Florida amateurs did a beautiful job in providing emergency communications. See story elsewhere.

— photo via W4RKH SCM W. Fla.

monthly clearance of all received cards in the bureau to those having envelopes on file --- whether they receive one or one hundred cards."

In one month's time Pat had the W4/K4 bureau caught up and he started the new year off with a fresh start.

(Continued on Page 13)

— Silent Keys —

We regret to announce the death of the following fellow amateurs:

Dr. Charles A. Layton, K4HNS
Miami on December 20, 1967.
Charles W. Boughner,
VE3IM/WA Melbourne, Fla.
William J. O'Phelan, W4GOX

ex-W2JCA, St. Petersburg, Fla.
Edward Hoge, W4DVK., Ft.
Lauderdale, Fla.

Herbert La Morder, W4HDC,
Oldsmar, Fla.

A. Evan Feightner, K4HH,
Naples, Fla.

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Dear Mabel XYL Award, c/o Skip, Box 501, Miami Springs, Fla.

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HINTS & KINKS. R. V. Frederick
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AD4TZI, Ft. Pierce, Florida

AF MAK5, Alan Strauss, W4JTK,
Carol City, Fla.

NAVY MARS, Jim Wilson W4GDK,
1204 Avocado Isle, Ft. Lauderdale,
Fla.

VHF SSB'ers R.D. Ralston, K4LFF
7195 59th St., Pinellas Park, Fla.
33565.

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Letters To Editor

Editor,
The Record:

Please let me take this means to publicly say: "God bless our Ham operators!"

They render so many services for which they receive nothing more than the satisfaction of knowing they have helped a fellow being.

This past weekend one of our local "Hams" unhesitatingly got a message on its way for our son-in-law in Vietnam. One night I talked with this son-in-law by way of a Ham in Sacramento.

What a wonderful Christmas present to actually talk with him and hear his voice in person and not taped! I am sure thousands of persons will be made happier this Christmas by such events.

The saying goes: "It takes all kinds to make up the world." How much nicer the world would be if we could cash in some of the unwashed, unshaven, non-working rabble-rousers for more fellows like these quietly going about helping their fellow man.

Again: May God bless our Ham operators!

Mrs. Mary Brooks Gober
205 Cherokee St.
(St. Augustine Record
12-26-67)

Editor:

Just received January '68 issue of SKIP. I was particularly interested in the article "Upgrading Licenses" on page 13. In the third paragraph the statement: "Something new is being created, 'Exclusive reserved bands', something the United States has never known in its Amateur Radio Service." Apparently this writer either has a short memory or has not been in hamming very long. Seems like I remember, before 1952, when there were exclusive phone bands for Class "A" use only in both 80 and 20 meter bands. Actually, the new regulations only reinstate the privileges which were lost to Class "A" licensees in 1952 by the general revision of the regulations plus additional privileges for those who are willing to do a reasonable amount of work to pass the Extra license.

In this vicinity the new regulations have stirred up a considerable interest in progressing to a higher grade license. In the Lake Amateur Radio Assn., our local club, we have an advanced study class meeting each Monday evening for those who are interested in Advanced or Extra licenses. Attendance averages 18. Our total membership is about 35. As of now we have 6 Extra licenses, 6 Advanced 21 General and 2 Conditional. We should have a number of new Extra and Advanced licenses before too long. Most of the instruction has been by W4NXX, W4VDY and W4AFH who already have Extra tickets. A well conducted study class is a stimulating experience for all concerned. Try it!

I am sending a stamped envelope and would like one of your 1968 calendars. Happy New Year to all the SKIP staff.

73.

J.M. Smith, W4BP-N0YJC
"Tiny" Mount Dora, Fla.

Dear Editor,

I would like to know what force has acted upon our Florida Phone Nets to make them so grossly inefficient, and why our managers of these nets have demoted themselves from a position of authority and policy setting and guidance to the new stations and NCS to a position of collector and tabulator of daily net reports.

As I think back upon our Fla. net system when they were predominately AM in the 1950's when I was an swl I sincerely believe that they were much more progressive then than now. Under the direction of gone by ncs as W6PJU and expert guidance of W4TRS these nets flourished.

Our twentieth century managers, as they are so called, seem to have never heard of such accepted procedure as sending stations off frequency and where possible using the other sideband. They are also lax on frequency tolerance of stations. They have adopted the attitude of "Let's take our sweet old time and let the hours fly." One net that is especially noted for this is called in closed traffic circles the "Medicare Net." As for frequency if the station is barely audible he will get acknowledged just the same without any reference to his frequency. It has been proven more than once that if a qm is checking in off frequency he will continue doing so until he is informed of his frequency error and asked to correct it several times. NCS that I have spoken to that are running transceivers don't help matters any by just employing an external ufo so they can tune the guy in. I maintain that all NCS's should operate as though they have no external provisions and make the offender get on frequency.

My chief gripe is the complete and apparent lack of a station to follow NCS's instructions. When an NCS calls for stations with traffic you always have some cute one who check in QRX. Or when he calls for stations "able" through "mable" someone who doesn't know the alphabet checks in with an R in his call. Where it really hits home is the NCS don't really care if their instructions are followed or not. I had one NCS from Miami on one of our nets on Saturday tell me that although he read a preamble including certain instructions he didn't care if they were followed or not just as long as he was enjoying himself.

What is appalling is that our young up start "The Fast Net" under good administration and mostly good net controls is the most efficient circuit of our four Florida Phone nets. Who says phone can't be efficient???

I say it can.

Tandy Way K4YSN
P. O. Box 303
South Miami, Fla.
33143

Editor:

I think your staff is doing a wonderful job on FLORIDA SKIP. I wonder if I may make a suggestion, why don't you have a section in the paper for new equipment and reporting on it?

(Continued on Page 15)

NEW Drake

TAKE YOUR PICK!



R4B

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T-4X

- New tuning knob and skirt
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W4GDK - Broward Ham-of-the-Year

Our ham got his general license in Chicago - Call 9BUK. When Advanced Class license became available he got this license in 1934, and for a few years enjoyed the extra privileges of Advanced Class licenses.

In the early days most of his equipment was homemade. He especially liked a regenerative receiver which used two large honeycomb coils mounted on a glass towel bar. By moving the coils with plastic knitting needles the regeneration could be built up to high level, bring in DX that his buddies couldn't hear at all.

The winter of 1927 was spent in Hollywood, Calif., where he and his next-door neighbor put a rig on the air under his call 6DGP. They were amazed to find that 20 meters worked well in daylight!

After coming back East, he came to this great state to take his Sophomore year of college at the University of Florida in Gainesville. This was followed by two years at Northwestern Univ. in Evanston where he secured his degree in Business Administration.

For a few years his radio activity was curtailed but after his marriage in 1942 to an acquaintance of many years, he set up shop in the basement of their home in Evanston, Ill. and was soon going strong on the traffic nets. Appointed Route Manager for the Illinois CW net he worked hard on its organization and served as R.M. for 6 years.

A short time before that his traffic net had suffered severe interference from some hamming by some operators from the Army station WAR signing a semiofficial call in the ham band. A letter of protest went off to Washington and brought back a rather hot reply - but a copy went to the Illinois state director of Army MARS. Evidently he wondered whether the original letter writer was a kook or had a lot of guts. Hence he called him on the land line. The upshot was that our amateur enrolled in Army MARS and was very active in it for eleven years. His work was mostly of CW except for a 2 meter AM fone net which he ran for four years.

When our amateur retired and moved to Florida he set up



PRESIDENT BARC, JACK WAINWRIGHT W4IEH, presents Jim Wilson, W4GDK/NØWCK (left) with the Broward Amateur Radio Club - HAM OF THE YEAR AWARD PLAQUE. Award was made at the Annual B.A.R.C. banquet in Fort Lauderdale. (photo by W4IEH)

what looks like a "radio central" antenna system with the help of several of his neighbors. Being attracted to Navy MARS in 1963, he resigned from Army MARS and jumped into Navmars activities. His Navy call is NØWCK. Now Deputy Coordinator for Navmars in the So. Florida area our ham recruited nearly 40 members in So. Florida and other parts of the country.

He is an active net control station in several Navmars nets, handling much Viet Nam traffic and also on Florida Mid-day Traffic Net on Tuesdays.

An especially critical job he has at present is to be Area Coordinator for the Navy's Antarctic Phone Patch Net for the staff of 800 Navy and civilian personnel stationed at McMurdo Sound, close to the South Pole. Running many of the patches himself, he supervises a group of Navmars stations in other cities who are assigned to participate in this interesting activity.

An additional service he performs is to serve as correspondent to Florida Skip magazine for Broward Radio Club and Navy MARS. As a result of his listing in this capacity he recently received a letter from a company up north addressed to "Mr. Broward Arc W4GDK"! Two years ago he served a term

Where Our Calendars Came From

In 4246 BC, the Egyptians adopted the first calendar based on the Solar year. It was a twelve month calendar with each month containing thirty days, totalling 360 days for the year. To make the calendar come out even with the Sun, they added five days at the end of the year - six days every fourth year. The five days were not part of any months. They were used as feast days in honor of their Gods.

Have you got your neat lil 1968 FLORIDA SKIP calendar? We have one waiting for you for a self addressed stamped (6¢ that is) envelope - any size.

Each year we receive hundreds of requests for these calendars, so we are QRV OM. SKIP Calendar, Box 501, Miami Springs, Florida 33166.

a Secretary of B.A.R.C. in Ft. Lauderdale.

Our ham also serves as a Radio Officer in our Broward Civil Defense Organization. This is a logical continuation of his previous work up north. There he served as R.O. for the Evanston, Ill. Civil Defense.

Our HAM OF THE YEAR is JIM WILSON, W4GDK.

New Space Center Club

The Space Center Amateur Radio Society ("SCARS") was formed at the Kennedy Space Center, Florida on March 30, 1967. The FCC has issued Station License WB4ICJ.

All Government - Industry employees of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration interested in Amateur Radio are eligible for membership. Fifty persons, of whom twenty-six are licensed amateur radio operators, have attended meetings.

SCARS meetings are held at 4:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the KSC Training Building. Training in Morse Code and in radio theory will be given following each meeting, and at other designated times. Radio operations are conducted from the "SCARS SHACK" located in the KARS Recreation area of the Space Center.

Society President Walter Speake, W4SXI, says the SCARS plan a message relay to service men in Viet Nam once the station is fully equipped.

"Buck" Tomlinson, WB4DXD, is Vice President; Robert Conklin, W4NZN, is Secretary-Treasurer, and Frank Rogers, W4TZY, is Trustee of the SCARS. They invite all contractor and NASA employees interested in becoming a part of the "Ham Fraternity" to join them in "brass pounding" with their fellow hobbyists in all corners of the globe. They also invite all "Hams" to be listening for WB4ICJ "SCARS CALLING". A QSO certificate will be sent to the first contact made in each state or foreign country.

GRID LEAKS

Doesn't it seem strange that some people can afford a SSB exciter, a KW liner, two cars and a boat but cannot afford a ten dollar dummy antenna?

Onyx

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

This tube - transistor situation reminds me of what my Pappy used to say when automobiles started replacing horses. He used to say that even though the automobile might be able to do everything a horse could do there will still be times when it will be cheaper to use the horse in spite of the mess in the stable.

Onyx



By AFB4JTK/AFC4BND

The monthly average of phone patches to and from SEA was 9,000 and messages was 12000. That is quite an accomplishment by people who give of their time, skill, and efforts for service personnel both overseas and here at home. AFCS is deeply appreciative of the tireless efforts, and time put in by all. Thanks to the 12,000 members of A.F. Mars.

For those who are not familiar with Variety Children's Hospital in Miami, Fla., here is something that will make us hams look up. On December 24, 1967, two Mars members and a local ham went to this hospital which is non-profit and specializes in the diseases of children, and decided that the children who could not get home for Xmas should be able to speak to Santa. It was done via radio. AFB4RRP and WA4ZFP a fellow ham, set up a sixer and the children talked to Santa, at the north pole. Santa sounded suspicious and turned out to be AFC4DYU. HO HO HO went to the children and they were very happy. I imagine the gleam in the eyes could be seen for miles. An added dividend was Santa could converse in both English and Spanish. The communication was on Mars frequencies, to minimize the effect of the children hearing voices other than Santa's.

Make It Easy On Yourself

Regis Kramer RM E FLA.

Can you use a typewriter?
Do you handle traffic?

Why not combine these two talents? Sure, it does take some additional practice to coordinate copying on the "mill". However, the effort is well rewarded. Improved accuracy will be noted, (you'll be able to read it when QSP). You will enhance your ability to keep up with the speed demons . . . whether on phone or CW. Try it sometime. Once you have mastered the

This is just another example of unheralded jobs done by hams. Thanks.

AFC4AGI, Jim of Miami, Fla. has been appointed manager of FL2MV5. He has quite a number of people in his net and besides that he is not a constant check-in on 2S2 thru 2S7. Being able to work both 6 and 2 meters and area he will definitely be an asset to this area and to the program for some time to come. FB Jim.

We received a net roster of the Ga. stations. Not bad. There are three stations that are NCS on area net 4416 and traffic is passed by the continuous check-ins of members. Pappy of St. Simons Island, (AF4BCL) is doing a fine job as net monitor. Keep up the good work Georgia.

This column is read by more than 200 members of AF Mars we are told. We are very proud and for more information about AF Mars contact your local Mars stations.

coordination . . . you'll never go back to the "stick". And . . . if you really want to get fancy, you can learn to endorse your messages with one hand (on the mill) while sending with the other. This can also come in handy for contest operation. Oh yes, how is your code speed? About 15 or 20? Shoot for that 30 and 35 WPM code proficiency. It's "no sweat" on the "mill".

SET BACK AND RELAX. Make it easy on YOURSELF.

MISSISSIPPI TRAFFIC

A RADIOgram received by W4ILE from Jack-W4JDF SEC/RM of Miss. states that the MISS TFC NET has resumed daily operation at 0045Z on 3647z.

It's Time Again for the...

ANNUAL B.A.R.C.

AUCTIONFEST!

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CLUB NEWS

B.A.R.C. NEWS

Jim Wilson W4GDK

Our new President Ivan Peterson W4EOD in expressing his confidence of a good year ahead promised an interesting social program and the start of incentive license training. He very kindly congratulated this correspondent for having been selected as the Ham of the Year on the basis of his Navy MARS and general ham activity in the past year. A beautiful engraved plaque and a \$25.00 cash award was given by the Club. The honor is very great and W4GDK-NQWCK is most appreciative.

It is planned that the January meeting will be in part a "get-acquainted" meeting so the members can get to know their new officers, and vice versa. Also plans for the year are going to be discussed.

Furthermore, final plans will be discussed about our Auctionfest which is going to be held in Chaminade High School in Hollywood on Feb. 17. Watch ads in Fla. SKIP for directions and information. It's an ideal place for selling or buying bargains.

The February meeting of the Broward Amateur Radio Club will be held on Wed. Feb. 14 at the Broward County Medical Assn. Bldg. at 2200 So. Andrews Ave., Ft. Lauderdale at 8 p.m. Coffee will be served. Anyone interested in ham radio is cordially invited.

INDIAN RIVER NEWS

M. P. Earnhardt, WN4HNE

With the new year here, it just does not seem that any of us has gotten very much done. As we all get back into the groove, I would like to say Happy New Year, even if it is a little late.

Our new club officers for 1968 have been elected. For President, Don Klobe, WA4KJV. Vice President, Bill Price, WA4JIC. Secretary, Jim McDonald, WA4EBO. Treasurer, George Basher, WB4BXJ. Program, O. B. Rawls, W4FXH. Our Directors are: Bob Bruner, W4KDT and Dorsey Dean, WA4RIA.

Talking about getting things done, our club has been very busy planning activities and on Dec. 16 we held our annual Christmas Message Centers. The Searstown location topped all of the other centers, but only because of its central location. I was very happy to have worked with all of those who were involved in the other message centers and thanks to them it was a big success.

This year looks like it's going to be a busy one for our program chairman, O. B. Rawls. He has certainly planned an interesting group of programs relating to the amateur VHF, TV and other forms of emissions. Speaking of programs, our last meeting, on January 8, Chuck Brown gave a talk on the problems of Detection, Conversion, Interface and Modes of RTTY.

Well, that's about all for this month, so be sure and look for the next article from the IRARC.

73 for now, until next month. Mike

FLORIDA RTTY

Rex Peters, W4ZAG

The Tenth Annual meeting of the "Florida Rty Society" meeting was held at the "Dobbs House" Quality Courts Motel on Sunday at Daytona January 7th and a good time was had by all. The business meeting was held and the officers for the coming year were elected.

Rex Peters, W4ZAG; Re-elected President; J. E. Andrews, W4IMZ

elected Vice President and Fred De Motte W4RWM re-elected Secretary-Treasurer. This was followed by a display of the model 28 printer by Mr. Andrews and his explanation of its workings, with questions and answers, then Gus Henderson K4TMF from Brunswick, Ga. displayed the "SELCAL" an integrated circuit device used for selective calling on RTTY. Home built but looked more like a factory job.

Meeting was adjourned for the dinner. 34 were present, including the ladies, then goodbye's and for home.

One of the highlights, was a general get-together at Fred's house on Saturday night, where Mrs. De Motte served a wonderful buffet dinner and all RTTY problems were discussed and solved.

Join us nightly 7 p.m. on 3704 kc 73

NOFARS

By Howard Kelley, K4DSN

A new set of officers have been selected to head NOFARS for 1968. Getting the nod of the membership are Howard Kelley, K4DSN, president; Harold Hobbs, WA4VZF, vice-president; George Werner, W4ORT, secretary; Bob Pierce, WA4TAQ; treasurer; and Leonard Kelley, WA4FJA, activities manager. Still to be named are our annual recipients of awards for the member who contributed the most to the club during the year and to the member who managed to pull the biggest foul up -- to him will go the "Gas-ed Grid Award."

Work is progressing on NOFARS' attempt to find a permanent home through the auspices of the City of Jacksonville. Consolidated government will no doubt slow up progress as we approach the month of October.

The Jacksonville Area Chamber of Commerce has thus far acted very favorably to the idea of printing a local QSL card for Jacksonville area hams. The card will be designed by a professional artist and will fit into the overall promotional campaign of the city.

Members have voiced interest in organizing participation in the IARU Propagation Contest scheduled for the entire month of April. NOFARS plan to use the contest as a means of brushing up for Field Day 1968.

Santa Clause was generous to the members at the Christmas meeting. Loads and loads of simple Christmas presents were exchanged between members and their guests. What a great way to unload junk.

GULFSTREAM SOCIETY

by Al Suhr, WB4AID

Another year is almost over for the present officers of the Gulfstream Society of Amateur Radio Operators of Lake Worth, Florida. The Nominating Committee members are Lewis Elam, W4OJY, Chairman, with Mel Wrobel, K4EBZ and Floyd Jones, WA4IXS. No matter how we try to make the committee function, there always seems to be a "Railroading" tactic that brings some members to their knees - Hi!

Well, Stan Scalise, W4WZZ/5 is now with Texas Instruments in the Research Department. Had a card from him stating that he will be on the air as soon as possible. Stan was our Engineer-Trustee.

WB4FPB now has a new Engineer-Trustee. Jim Johnson, W5JBZ was appointed to that post and has already taken over Stan's many duties. Incidentally Jim is the "Head Master" at the School of Electronic Knowledge as conducted by the Society for its members. Recent announcements indicate that the new course will be somewhat of a ahead-scratcher. That's good, I keep telling myself. He will have some real FB assistance because Lewis Elam, W4OJY and Dick Kidder, WB4AKH are on the lecture staff.

We understand that Tom Butler, WA4IET left Florida for Tubac, Arizona and encountered 8 ft drifts of snow. We just know he was prepared for THIS.

Wareen Little, WA4EFA, was home for the Holidays and has now returned to U of F to resume EE College. He will return to IBM later AT THEIR REQUEST during the next term while participating in the Cooperative Educational Plan. After repairs to his car are made locally and the car delivered to Gainesville, Warren will return to the air.

Former Secretary, John C. Fulford, Jr., WA4VPY is also in Gainesville - this is his first year, having just graduated from Palm Beach Junior College. John has entered EE College.

By the way, President Al Suhr, and Vice President Frank Piverotto, WA4TBN threw a good-bye dinner for Stan on the Thursday before Christmas. It was a real nice affair, but we were sure sorry it was for a Farewell.

Guess I better knock this off for another month.

FLA. VHF SIDEBANDERS

By R.D. Ralston-K4LFF

1968 has really started off good for the VHFers with world-wide contacts being made from east of the Miss. Back scatter has been terrific from here and K6EDX, Bob in Fresno told me it had been the same out there. Don, K4QKR says he is looking for K-L7's now after being the only one in Florida to work KH6NS on the 2nd. I am on the lookout for Miss Iowa. Maybe W4GDS, our 2nd vice president can be of help in that category too!


Many of the members have requested a list of the new group be put in SKIP, so her tis! All 28 of the charter ones - K4LFF, W4DPH, WA4ZZC, WA4SPI, WA4ZRZ, WA4GRK, WA4YV, K4AAI, WB4CZN, WB4CQS, WB4GMP, K4TBG, WA4ZWV, W4JVQ, WB4HXQ, W4BNE, WB4EHR, WA4ZRB, WA4TST, WB4HJH, WA4TIC, WA4V-LG, WA4LQE, W4GDS, WB4CQU, K4DCR, WB4ETO and W4GJO.

We are getting started much better than I had hoped to do, and with the help of all including Bob, W4GDS who started another net, most of us are very familiar with, the one now heard Sunday at 1000 from W3KWH. Ours is at 1100 Sunday at 50.150 and also nightly at 2100 EST. Check in will not be compulsory as in some nets.

Our noise from here is rough at times so don't give up if you hear no one. Many Sunday mornings the ground wave is very good, but almost no one on, so quit being a SWL and call CQ once in awhile.

Keep in mind that many beams are sharp and most of the rotors are slow. Many times I hear someone call CQ, but by the time I can get them tuned in, they are gone (also probably complaining that the band was dead or no one would talk to them). Anyone want-

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ing to get a 2 meter SSB net going, contact WADPH, Jim, our other vice president. Where ar all the SSBers from northwest Florida and also Jax?

ORLANDO RAMBLINGS

Hal, W4BKC

By the time you read this, wonder how many of your New Year Resolutions have gone down the drain? Don't feel bad, the percentage of kept resolutions is minus to the tenth power.

Some of the local gang met with Bill Clinton, W4BVX who is now operating from the Canal Zone with the call KZ5SW. We heard of his experiences since leaving Orlando, and that he will be returning here after his retirement in about two years which is good news. His new address is Box 718, Albrook A.F.B., Canal Zone. Bill was here on his annual leave, should be back in KZ5 land now.

The Orlando Amateur Radio Club Inc., is finalizing plans for theory classes for those who will upgrade their licenses, along with codepractice sessions, on the air. Don't know all the particulars at this time, but details will be announced soon.

The Simulated Emergency Test, SET will be the last week end in January. (27-28) after it's all over, don't say well that's it for another year - we could have a REAL emergency anytime!

Just a reminder: if you have envelopes on file at the QSL Bureau, please send additional postage to cover the increase in rates. W4 and K4 QSL's are handled by H. L. Parrish, K4HXF, RFD #5 Box 804, Hickory, North Carolina 28601.

Orlando Amateur Radio Club meets second Tuesday of each Month, Red Cross Building, Washington and Bumby Sts. 8:00 p.m.

SUNCOAST

ROVING REPORTER

CATHY SOEHL W4BAV

Crazy Xmas for K4BNE-Rick & Betty Rutan. Rick was scheduled for 1st Xmas off in years, looked forward to a big family dinner. Spent spare time refinishing a bicycle for eldest son Doug. Friday before Xmas, this son stolen from driveway; all search & police efforts failing to find it, the Rutans purchased a new one. Leaving the Shopping Center, Rick made a wrong turn enroute to a friend's home & Betty looking into an empty field discovered the stolen bike. Doug got the new bike & now the Rutans are attempting to sell 2 old bikes, since they'd already gotten one for son Cliff. After all this, Rick spent Xmas Day in bed with the flu & was out of action for a week. Back to work now shaky but unbowed.

Sorry to report W4GOX-Bill O'Phelan, listed last month in the hospital, joined the Silent Keys on Christmas Day.

QCWA Dec meeting was held at John Hall Rest., at Clearwater, with XYLs & friends joining members for a delicious steak dinner. A very interesting talk was given by 4-Star General Conway, of U.S. Strike Command, MacDill. Genl. Conway is W4EII & his XYL-Eleanor is ex-WN4GWE. Genl Conway has been an amateur 30 years & in service 40 years. We learned the purpose of Strike Command is to be ready to serve any

national purpose any where in the world & ready to operate in own area. Other Old Timers told of various experiences & a good time was had by all.

An organization of 2-way radio mobile operators is being planned as an assits to law enforcement in St. Pete. The operators will work with police only to the extent of reporting possible crimes to the police station through their radio set ups. Full information may be obtained at Police Headquarters in St. Petersburg.

FLORIDORA NEWS

Cathy Soehl W4BAV

K4LFA-Dot, OM, K4ENW-George Davidson & harmonics spent Xmas with Dot's parents, Mr. & Mrs. Doug Habgood(W4KQR) St. Pete & George's family, Art Davidson (K4HZX), of Largo.

W4WPD-Shirley & OM W4UFR-Earl had a extra fine New Years as son Russell was home for a week & helped them enjoy their new color TV.

W4UF-Dot Saunders missing from the Floridora Net for several weeks; must be she is busy with that new Mosley plastic beam & 50 ft. tilt-over tower.

W4TDK-Naomi was re-elected Sec-Treas. of the SIARC. Naomi's Father has been in Bay Pines Hospital & her mother, who has a heart condition, is staying with her. We hope they will both be recuperated by now.

W4BMC-Big Mike has picture in Amateur Communication Handbook of Popular Electronics, page 138.

W4BIL-Fran & OM W4WME-Bill Foley have been having a "bout" with the flu. Hope all is well now.

W4MPD-Shirley & W4BAV-Cathy enjoyed a week-end in Nov, when their OMs took them to St. Cloud for a visit with W4EHN-Betty. Then a stop in Orlando to see K4UIZ-Ev. Finally arrived in Daytona Beach to enjoy a surprise turkey dinner prepared by W4IUR-Mims & a pleasant evening with she & Walt-K4VNA. The next morning W4WPD, W4BAV & W4IUR decended on K4RNS-Marge where, after a gabfest they enjoyed a tour of their "Birdland" which is quite an education in itself.

W4BAV-Cathy & OM, W4GHR-Bill enjoyed a visit from K8QHJ-Martha & OM, W4MJN-George Green of Atwater, Ohio, & K8ONA-Eunice & OM, K8LMF-Bernie Bernon, of Cleveland, Ohio. Eunice & Martha are members of the Apricot Net. Eunice & Bernie operate the "Ham Shack" in Cleveland.

WESTERN FLORIDA

NEWS

Frank M. Butler, Jr., W4RKH

Pensacola, K4DOT is very active as OO and does well in the FMT's. W44EPH is boning us for Extra Class and First Phone. W44IZM is fighting ignition noise in mobile rig. K4NMZ gave his Marauder a smoke test, and it flunked!

Milton: K4HGX is now EC for Santa Rosa County.

Fort Walton: Local hams got the jump on the National SET when a severe tornado struck Dec. 10. The 2-meter nets (AM and FM) were given a good workout; several hundred messages and inquiries from all over the country were handled. W44THJ had his home totally destroyed; many other hams lost antennas and suffered property damage. W4MMW relinquished EC job to W4B4EER because of Red Cross duties.

Panama City: New Tyndall club officers are: W44VIX, President; W44KQZ and W4FOX. W4FOX has faasmile set-up to copy weather satellite photos.

Chipley: K4SGY is working on Masters degree at U. of Fla. W4KB and W44FLK built portable 40m antenna for W44HMD to use while at school.

Tallahassee: W44EAO is serving as EC for Jefferson County. W4MLE has a tri-band quad up.

LAKE AMATEUR

By Zach Bruce W44TJS

My apologies for the absence of a club report in SKIP for the past few months, but being in college sure makes things hectic. I would like to wish all readers a very prosperous New Year and hope that each of you had a very, very Merry Christmas.

The LARA has been very busy in the past few months. We are sponsoring two classes, one being a Novice class, and the other a class to prepare for the Advanced ticket. From the reports I have on the Novice class, there are about 10 regular members who are expected to take their Novicetest in the next few weeks. We have one father and son team which should prove interesting as to who uses the rig and when. In the advanced class, there are around 10-15 active members. This class is being taught by Reid Martin W4VDY; and Tommy Thompson, W44NXA, both who hold Extra tickets.

At club meetings, we have had very interesting talks by different members on Antenna Probagation and feed lines, and at the last meeting, a very interesting talk on TVI, which was reported to us by Bill Golding, W8GJS/4

(Bill is expecting his 4 call soon.)

Several members of the LARA are on two meters. Som of these are: Henry, K4AOB; Doc, W4BDPD; Homer, W44ZJI; and myself, W44TJS; Henry, Doc and I have Heath TWOers, and Homer has a home brew job. I am presently constructing a 20 watt 2 meter transmitter. Anyone want to try a schedule, just write. We usually hang out around 145.2 MHz.

Many of the LARA members are in Navy MARS. These members are Henry, N8YJG; Doc, N8HWR; Irl, N8SPD; Zach, N8HYD.

Recently the LARA acquired some early radio gear, which was the estate of Don Rice, 8LD. This equipment includes: 3/4 KW transformer, Rotrary Spark Gap, Fixed transmitting condenser, Oscillation transformer, Key, Antenna switch, semi-auto key, 1" spark coil, fixed spark gap, Mica transmitting condenser, variable condenser, crystal detector, loose coupler. We also have an Omnigraph which was donated by Irl Ball, K4UR-A/W8CX. All of this equipment is enclosed in a glass case which is on display in the club room of the LARA.

We would like to extend an invitation to all hams in Florida and those out of state who read SKIP to visit the Lake Amateur Radio Association sometime in the future. We meet on each Thursday night at 8 P.M. Contact any member for directions to the club house.

SARASOTA ARS

By H.A. Rabjohns W44AQV

We are happy to report the newly elected officers of the Sarasota Amateur Radio Association for 1968 are: Pres. H.H. Osborn, Jr., K4DYB; VP Ned Buck, W4TXE; Secty. Harold Rabjohns, W44AQV; Tres. Phil Anderson, W44EHX; Programs Don Woodworth, W44GTO.

Best wishes to Larry Loper W4WHF our retiring president who did an excellent job.

GAINESVILLE NEWS

Mack Tyner, W44SXD

This is my first Skip column, so please forgive my haphazard writing style. Everything is going great guns in Gainesville, as usual, and I haven't had much time to prepare material.

In the January elections, Sam Carson, W44HWI, was elected president, Jack Spencer, W44UFO, vice-president, and Mack Tyner, W44SXD, secretary - treasurer. The new officers agreed with the club members that code and theory classes, both for

(Continued on Page 8)



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NET NEWS

FMTN
By W4AKB

FMTN had a big month in December. There were many new check-ins and many stations not heard for a long time dropped in to give the Seasons Greetings and talk to old friends. As far as I know everyone managed to survive the holiday so the New Year should be good to all the Nets.

FMTN meets every day except Sunday, at 12 noon EST or 1700z on 7230 khz. We welcome all modes, AM, CW, SSB to check-in. Any station desiring to be placed on the roll should address a formal message to the Net Manager. He will see that the Net Control Statins are all advised.

During the month of December there were 26 sessions with 708 stations handling 680 formal messages. Average QNI was 27.2; average QTC was 26.1.

Our Net Manager during 1967 has been Clyde, W4SDR, Daytona Beach and Asst. Net Manager Herb, K4DAX Bradenton, Florida.

73, Charlie

TROPICAL PHONE NET

By Ken W4SMK

The TPTN certainly did its share to help handle the holiday traffic load this year. See W4MVB's traffic column for the net standings and you will note we nearly made BPL, if this award were made to nets, this month. My thanks to all the net members, net controls, and other stations who participated in making this fine total.

We welcome aboard new net members WB4ADL, George in Jacksonville, who helps with West Fla. traffic and also WB4EPD, Rich in Clearwater. Also glad to have back on the active list K8LNE/4 Mac in Bradenton, K4VNA, Walt in Daytona, and W4KRC, Jim in Tampa.

Congratulations to George WA4-NBE who was elected Manager of the FAST Net, and to Ron W4YPX who is the retiring Manager. Both are also members of the TPTN, which shows how good traffic men get around in many activities.

W4SCY is back with us after a round with the flu bug, and is working

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ON AIR

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SUNDAYS
3910

7:30 A.M. Nov. to April
7:00 A.M. April to Nov.

to get W4OVO going in good style once again. Good to hear you on Bart, and also to hear Jessie W4OVO with such a good signal.

A reminder that the TPTN meets at 2200 GMT (5 PM EST) on 3945 KHz Monday thru Saturday. We do not hold the net open more than 15-20 minutes if there is little traffic, so please try to be on time. If you are too late for TPTN we recommend the FAST Net at 2300Z on 3940 KHz (but not on Saturday). Your suggestions for improvement of the net are invited.

QFN REPORT



By Bob
Blumberg
WA4OHO

The New Year has brought good fortune to QFN, especially in the return of several of our old faithfuls! The returning stations include WA4NBT, who is now helping out considerably with the regional nets, WA5CUY/4, who has been busy with school, and Whee, W4LDM. Carlo, WB4AJV is really getting around. He has just returned from a trip on his ship to the Mississippi River entrance. Unfortunately, due to law, he cannot operate /MM on 80 meters, so must wait until within the three mile limit.

Statistics for the month of December show that 69 different stations checked into 62 sessions for a total QNI of 790, QTC of 711 and QNF of 1487 for a fine rate of 0.497 messages/minute. This includes one session of QFEN during the tornadoes which lasted for 210 minutes.

Net certificates will soon be issued. Eligibility requirement is that you be active for at least the last three months. ARL 7 WA4OHO so he can check your eligibility and inform W4BVE, who will then issue the certificates.

Let's hope that the New Year will be one of the best ever for QFN and that it is the year that YOU will join the All Florida CW Net, which meets daily at 2330 Z and 0300 Z on 3651 kc/s.

IT'S A FACT . . .

CB'ers have a fine system of publicity. Hardly a day goes by without some reference being made via the papers about their activities . . . How about sending some of your local club activities into the local newspaper in your area . . . Get on the ball Hams before Ham radio becomes a part of CB in the eyes of the public . . . It can happen.

DON'T FORGET . . .

FLA. ARRL NET
THURS., 8 P.M.
3950

CLUB NEWS

(Continued from Page 7)

beginners and experienced hams, should be reinstated, and the officers will discuss plans for these classes and report their recommendations to the club at the next meeting.

Bill, WA4JKX, will be on a six weeks' leave from the Navy soon, and promises to try to be at the February meeting. Alachua County EC Jack Spencer, WA4UFO, has announced plans for the SET, which we hope will be successful.

Activity on the local ten meter FM frequency has been picking up lately, with Kenny, K4MWF, in Chiefland being the newest addition to the group. A hearty welcome goes out to all of the University of Florida students returning for the winter quarter, and also an expression of sympathy to those of you with Saturday classes. Two meter FM activity in the area is also increasing, with Cecil, K4RZO, and Lamar, WA4FLJ, collecting parts for their repeater. Jack, WA4UFO, has also had much participation on his 8:30 p.m. Sunday night AREC net, (146.94 Mhz)

The annual talk to Santa via ham radio operation took place December 23rd at the J. M. Fields store, with Jack, WA4UFO, and his visiting son providing plenty of robust ho-ho-ho's from Jack's ten meter FM base station. Bill, K4RDP, and Mack, WA4SXD, took care of the interviewing from Bill's portable station set up in the toyroom of Fields. Over 200 children were provided with a chance to talk to Santa, and each was given a lollipop for their trouble.

SARASOTA AMATEUR

Larry Loper, W4WHF

At the December meeting of SARA

our new vice president Ned Buck W4TXE showed color slides of his recent journey to HK land, Columbia South America, where he participated in the CQ World Wide DX contest as HK4EF. He reported that one of his most exciting contacts from there was with SARA member W4BGO who had just signed with VU4GW on CW. Ned was using the Heath HW 32, which has no CW facilities, so he whistled into the microphone to contact Ben Letson, W4BGO, after the contact was made they moved up to the phone band to continue the QSO and Ben reported that Ned's signal had been a little chirpy, HI!

After the program the annualelection of officers was held with the following results: President, H. H. Osborn Jr. K4DYB, Vice Pres, Ned Buck W4TXE, Secretary, H. A. Rabjohns, WB4AQV, Treasurer, Phil Anderson, WB4EHX and Activities Manager, Don Woodworth, WA4GTO.

The first meeting of the new year was a special meeting with K L I M P Herb Kline, a well known DX'er and sales engineer for Waters Mfg. Co., as our guest speaker. Herb brought along Waters new SSB transceiver model 381 to show to the gang. He described it as an all transistor receiver, with all transistors in the exciter except the final. Both the exciter and the Linear are broad banded so that it is not necessary to tune up when changing bands. It covers all of the amateur bands from 80 through 10 meters.

Everyone was disappointed that Herb had been called back to Boston and could only spend about 30 minutes. with us. He showed color slides of his DX-pedition to Navassa Island. He also showed Waters new Band Adder, which makes any center loaded mobile antenna into a 4 band antenna.

We had a number of hams from both the Manatee Amateur Radio Club and the Tamiami Amateur Radio Club of Venice present for the meeting.

73, Larry

TOP TWENTY TRAFFIC TAKERS

Each month we are happy to list the top 20 Florida traffic takers. We hope to see your call here next month.

1. WA4SCK	BPL	1147	11. K4BSS	358
2. K4YSN	BPL	798	12. WA4IZZ	248
3. WA4NEV	BPL	508	13. W4SMK	216
4. W4FPC		465	14. W4RKH	205
5. WB4AIW		440	15. W4ILE	194
6. WA4NBE	BPL	434	16. WB4EPD	194
7. W4BVE		376	17. WA4PWF	BPL 179
8. WA4FGH		368	18. WBrDSP	170
9. K4LEC	BPL	361	19. WB4GYX	159
10. WA4IMC		267	20. WA4TWD	154

TRAFFIC HOUNDS

By Jesse H. Morris, W4MVB

NET	QNI	QTC	SES	AVG. QTC
QFN	790	711	62	11.9
GN	372	272	62	8.24
FATT	148	30	31	1.0
TPTN	637	492	26	18.9
FAST	837	354	23	15.4
FMTN	708	680	26	26.1
SATN	257	322	22	14.3
FPTN	433	227	26	8.7



By Hal Bates WA4FIU

The Gator Chapter of the Quarter Century Wireless Assn. had a meeting on the 16th of December at the Jimmy Hall Steak House at Morningside Estates in Clearwater, Fla.

The dinner was very good and ninety five members and their lady friends were there to enjoy it. Ample room was had for the meeting along with a good public address system.

Gen. T.J. Conway who is W-4EII who is Commander of the HQ Strike Command was the guest speaker, from McDill Air Force Base. Gen. Conway is one of only a few four star Generals. Some of the real old timers in radio, dating back as much as 50 years were also speakers extemporaneously. Arrangements are being made now to have a tour through McDill AFB for the members of the Gator Chapter, a date will be set later.

Presently we are having our regular meetings at the Kings Inn at Sun City 15 miles south of Tampa on the second Wednesday of each month, but some members would like to alternate between various meeting places to minimize the driving distance so that more could attend. More on that later. The luncheon meetings at Sun City are going to be hard to beat, the food is good, the price is right and the attendance has been very good.



Jim Wilson, NØWCK, W4GDK

Many additional Navmars stations are getting on RTT. In fact, there are so many that it was necessary to put a limit of two from any Navmars Area checking in to our District RTT net any one session.

To keep the others busy a frequency is being assigned for use in the So. Fla. area for daily sessions as a training net and to accept local RTT traffic which a rep. would bring from the Dist. Net. The frequency is being checked out at the present time.

It is felt that NØITK of Clearwater is doing an excellent job as Manager and Corrdinator of the District FTT net. The 6th Naval District is large and has a great many MARS members active in RTT. The area TT nets will be set up for local distribution of traffic and for training in best RTT procedure.

During December Chief Earl Crawford, our 6th Nav. Dist. Director, met with groups of our members in Jacksonville, St.



1967 OUTGOING OFFICERS and Directors of the Broward Amateur Radio Club (W4AB). Back row, left to right: WA4UYQ W4NYF, W4-JKW and K4GID. Front row, left to right: WA4KXI, W4DXL and W4-IEH. Don't forget the B.A.R.C. AUCTION. See ad elsewhere. (photo by W4IEH)

Petersburg, Clearwater, Dune-din and Ft. Lauderdale. His enthusiasm is contagious. From the recent Birmingham Conference Chief Crawford brought the information that there are approximately 20,000 members in the three MARS programs. Of these, about 9,000 are in Navy MARS. This is quite remarkable because Navy MARS did not exist until 1964. At present Navmars stations overseas and in this country are handling about 45,000 messages and phone patches per month with 4500 of them being handled in the 6th Naval District, (S.E. United States) alone.

In N.E. Fla. Area Coordinator Georgia Denman NØGAJ of Orlando puts in many hours as an active participant and as Corrdinator of the District SSB nets. Her signal is exceptional.

In the N.E. Area NØJZQ Ron

Thomas of Jacksonville and NØJQS Clair Showalter of Orlando are welcomed as new Navmars members.

After two days of inability to serve as a NCS, NØHYD went up on the room with a flashlight and found that a squirrel had chewed his coax in two.

The new Guantanamo Bay (Gitmo) lone patch net on 16.3 mc is swinging into action on Jan. 11 when Steve NØFRO gets back down there after a short visit to his home in Miami after attending the Birmingham conference and the recent meeting in Ft. Lauderdale. Already the frequency is carrying hundreds of phone patches thru the Marine bases at Cherry Point, Camp LeJeune and Beaufort in the Carolinas. It is hoped that before long the entire country

(Continued on Page 14)

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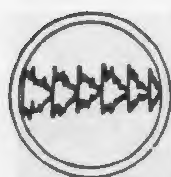
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The Florida Side Banders Association

by Charlie K4SRI

Your club reports at the first meeting of the New Year; 66 members reporting in, 3 associates attending. WA4FJA member number 306 . . . and competition from the RTTY meeting at Daytona. In addition to the above, a solid financial status reflecting the diligence of our treasurer Tony, W4JQ.

Dues are due . . . the end of January marks the end of the membership year.

Bulletin 148 stated that date for SET had been moved. Details in January QST and Florida Skip.

A brand new year - It occurs that probably the thing that is most equally distributed among all of us is time. Each of us has twenty-four hours a day. How we use it may differ. The mistakes of the past are gone, the furor over an uncertain future misplaced but we do have right now, and today.

1968 is bound to be remembered as the year of the incen-

tive system, in which the extra class licensee is going to be awfully lonely and the rest of us are even more crowded in our already crowded bands, but it doesn't affect 3940.

Some of us are going to find out what is in that black box that we bought, some of us are going to attempt to explain and divest SSB of its mystery and find that there's something more to Ham Radio than turning on the switch, turning up the volume control and letting her rip . . . After all what makes that box tick? We wired it from point 1A to 241Z . . . hot water alright but not necessarily with a 12 on the end of it. It really gives a good sideband man the dit dahs to think of it . . . Even the young people at school are saying it Hertz . . . of course there's always CB, and it has been said that there will always be an ARRL Hams or No . . .

73,

K4SRI

Dear Gladys:

Last week my bridge club met at our house and since Clyde was home he showed "the girls" through his new shack. They had never seen a ham station before so they asked all of the questions, and made up of the remarks, that ladies generally do.

When they had gone, Clyde wrote down some of the things they had said. I suppose we'll never hear the end of it. He wants Homer to have a copy, so here are a few of the outstanding comments from the time they walked in the room:

"Oh gracious, look at all of the machinery! Do you need all of this to talk to somebody else across the ocean? You must have a great big light bill every month, or do they give you special rates? Gladys, dear, it must be nice to be married to a scientist. Did you hear the Sputniks? What did they say?"

"Can you call up my brother in Cleveland? How many times have you been struck by lightning? My cousin's father-in-law in Des Moines is an operator like you. Their name is

Adams, do you know him? He said he used to have twenty meters on his radio, but now he only has two meters, which must be easier to read."

"How did you ever learn to do all of this, they don't actually teach it any place do they? Oh no, don't turn it on, it's raining. How do you know which thing to turn on first?"

"Oh look, here's his telegraph handle. He can send telegrams, too! Did you make all of these radios yourself? Can you get police cars on this? Do you talk to many policemen? All of this must have cost him thousands and thousands of dollars."

"How do they know where to find you on the dial? Well, I declare it's a real teletype like Howard Brown and the News on Channel 4. Do you have to pay for the News? Good heavens, it's typing in Spanish. Isn't that cute?"

But his favorite, and he swears she was serious, was: "Do you play the Star Spangled Banner when you sign off at night?"

I wish he had written down his answers. There's a few things there I'm not too sure about myself.

Love Mabel

GRID LEAKS

Much of the horrible stuff we hear from electronic keyers is not the fault of the keyer. It is caused by an improperly adjusted "nut" at the operating end of the key.

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HERE KEN NORDING WA4UYO displays his new CD Certificate presented by Olivor Lovendahl W4AHZ, Broward county CD Director, at the Annual BARC banquet in December. Ken has been a hard working BARC member for years. (photo via W4IEH)

SOUTH FLORIDA FM ASSN.

New club? No, not really, just late with the news. Elections were held October 16, 1967 and the results:

President: Norman H. Ginsberg
W4YFD

Vice President: Aubrey B. Hutchinson, Jr.
K4ANV

Treasurer: Barnett D. Freeman
K4EBG

Secretary: Theodore S. Holdahl
K4ANW

In November we applied for the repeater license and a few days ago we heard from the FCC. They will be happy to issue the license as soon as we comply

with some modifications. When we applied for the license, we got carried away and requested a few waivers; naturally, they refused. So now we have to do it the FCC way.

For a few of you the word 'repeater' has no meaning so let me just say that it receives weak mobile signals on one frequency and retransmits them on another frequency. The frequencies will be 146.34 input and 146.76 output. 2 meter FM of course! It will be located at the Engineering Bldg. of the University of Miami. - More next month. Kitty Holdahl WB4FII

CHRISTMAS GIFT-GIVING...

When the Christmas shopping's over,
And my feet are blistered sore;
Form walking up and down the street
And into every store.

When I behold the things I've chose
Of every shape and size,
My heart begins to flutter;
And I sort of realize-
That maybe after all
That I should have used more care,
And been more economical and saved a tiny share.

But then I get my list again,
And set myself to check
To see if I have done my best,
Or if I've run in debt.

But then I COULDN'T leave one out,
As each name I clearly see;
Well, Christmas comes but once a year,
They'll expect a gift from me.
But as I settle down to work I make a silent vow,
That I'll not so much next year,
But I know I will -- AND HOW!
By Leo. R. Scagliozzi,
W4VLN

'BUY FROM YOUR FELLOW AMATEUR' DEPARTMENT

FELLOW AMATEUR: Here are several firms that have an interest in YOUR business! They have seen fit to support the FLORIDA SKIP by giving us a little revenue each month in return

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LU7FAG Gus

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Whisperings From An Assistant SEC

by Thomas W. Chisholm W4FP

I am pleased to include WA4PWF as the last of the reported volunteers in the BEBA operation which perhaps will become a yearly event. A cw net alongside, would enhance the BEBA operation and would provide many more stations that operate on the numerous cw traffic nets as well as the many who are "unattached".

The national SET will be getting under way this month. Hope that all EC's will round up their clans as well as all other stations interested in emergency services and activate a SET that Florida will be proud of.

Orange County has a new EC, Wes "BEBA" Gardner K4KRG leaves for Washington D.C. due to job transfer and Hal Shea W4BKC is the new EC which leaves ARPSC in good hands. Nice photo of BEBA in December QST, P. 71. space being at a premium in QST it was not possible to include all call signs.

The article written by W3GD on next page, P.72, Emergency Communications Preparation should be read by all. I spent some time monitoring and in contact with W5KWU the Houston Red Cross station during Beulah. The staff at W5KWU are to be complimented on their handling of all kinds of rescue work and welfare reports. Florida stations are to be complimented on keeping off 3930 KC during the many days and nights of activity.

From the chit-chat on the air these days, it appears that many of the boys are not interested in traffic nets unless of course they wish to get a message out to Aunt Liz during holidays. The messages that are handled day in and day out in many cases may not be regarded as important but it does provide some much needed practice on traffic handling.

I have always felt that traffic nets are emergency nets just loafing along in between ARPSC requirements for service, keeping up their proficiency and never permitting the public to forget that they are ready to perform service whether it be anniversaries, weddings, birthdays, seasonal greetings, thank you and social messages and of course welfare traffic. All of this service must be worthwhile otherwise ARRL would not have gone to the trouble of setting up the ARRL numbered radiogram system.

The "underground" advises that many Citizen Banders are installing emergency power, and get this -- PHONE PATCHES to be used in cases of emergencies when they are operating in the public interest. Plans are supposed to be under way to contact the telephone offices in the base station areas and apply for provision of phone patch terminals with standard rates, permitting customer owned equipment (phone patches) to be installed and used only in emergencies, and they intend to supply the telephone company and the FCC with a log and record of each and every patch that is made.

As you know the CB'ers have built up a fine record in many sections working with and without amateurs, and there are many people in local government that have solicited their help due to failure of the radio amateurs to respond. This of course is not news to many people. Those who have the time, should take another look on P. 11 FLORIDA SKIP. May 1967.

The seasons greeting to all. Don't forget the "LO" program each Thursday night 8:00 p.m. CH 3950 KC (no commercials) CUL

QRV - QSL - QTA

I sent a message into the air
It fell on ears, I know not where-
It relayed swiftly thru the night
I was sure it was safe in its flight
I received my 'roger' over the
air

I breathed a sigh, it would get
there-

For how could anything go wrong
With operators so alert, signals
so strong.

Long, long afterward I did discover-

And from this I will never recover-

The operator who had the final relay

Thought it unimportant and
threw it away!

(by Bea Dietz, WA2GPT
Spurious Radiations)



K4HXF - PAT PARRISH, Hickory, N.C. took bureau over on Dec. 1, 1967 and had it caught up in one month where envelopes were on file. Thousands of cards find their way into pigeon-holes and ultimately to SASE each month. (See story on Page 1).

Ten Bad Net Control Rules

by W4SMK

The following rules are for phone net control stations who wish to hurry the process of thinning hair on the heads of the net members. We hope you do not recognize any net controls too close to home while reading these rules.

1. NCS should use a long long net roll call filled with stations who have been inactive since 1946. This assures an efficient net session.

2. If the traffic list is very long try to handle everything on the net frequency, but if the list is short try and move as many stations off frequency as possible to QRM the rag chewers.

3. Always send most stations off frequency before allowing any QNC's or bulletins to be given.

4. Never bother to remember net members names, calls, locations, and other such trivia. This helps speed up things considerably.

5. Always start the net as late as possible, and use your S-38 receiver to determine the exact net frequency.

6. Run low power with a poor antenna and use a nearly dead mike so you will have an outstanding signal.

7. Use an exciter that drifts at least one kc. per minute. This keeps the net members on the ball while trying to zero beat you.

8. Never stand by to give late or new stations a chance to check in.

9. If a new station should manage to break in give him the fast brush off and get on with the important business.

10. Always remember that the main objective of phone traffic nets is to check in as many members as possible, and to handle as little formal traffic in as long a period of time as possible. Or is it?

73 Ken

A SNOWBIRD'S PRAYER

N. E. Flynn, W9IHD/4

We enjoy your oranges, and your grapefruit too

And dream of visits far too few.
We thrill to the song of your golden shore,

It is wondrous and much more,
We relax in your ocean's strength and calm,

And hear music in the rustle of each palm.

We are always happy and at ease
With angels' kisses from the breeze.

We love the sun's warmth and healing ray,
Bringing peace and contentment to our stay.

Gods work is surely in this scene,
Perpetuating so many shades of green.

The sun's nestling in the west,
Is the hour we love best, and
We rapture as we gaze on high,
Viewing a million stars up in the sky,

And reverently ask the Lord if he,
Intended all of this for me.

TORNADO REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

damage and report to authorities. Later, mobiles were used to assist in delivery of health and welfare messages to those areas and homes where telephones were out, and to pick up replay messages.

Long-distance traffic (welfare and official) was handled on 75m. Later an additional outlet was established on 20m. The Section phone Net frequency of 3957 kc. was used to handle emergency traffic with WA4ZGI acting as NCS for many long hours. W4RKH handled messages for the National Guard when their own 7 mc. AM gear could not contact armories in Pensacola and Panama City from which troops were dispatched. Messages were also handled to Area and State CD Hq. in Tallahassee and Jacksonville, and for Red Cross to their offices in other cities.

When news of the storm was spread by the national TV and news services, welfare traffic increased tremendously. To handle the load, an additional net was started on 75m to handle such traffic. At least six stations were available in Fort Walton to take the traffic. Later, several stations moved to 20m to pick up long-haul traffic inquiries.

With several stations on Fort Walton on the 75m frequency, incoming welfare traffic was taken by each station in turn. After taking the inquiry, in either formal message or informal form, each station would go to the telephone or to 2m to get a mobile to deliver the message and get a reply on the spot. We never did build up a big backlog of undelivered traffic, and many distant stations calling in with traffic got their replies while they waited.

In addition to its use for mobiles, 2m was used as an intercom between HF stations to coordinate the handling of traffic.

It is estimated that approximately 1000 messages and inquiries were handled.

A partial list of Fort Walton stations participating:
80m: W4BVE, WB4GYX, W4SRX
75m: WB4EER, WA4IYH, W4RKH, WA4WEL, W4RLT, WA8FTH/4, K4VZO/4, W4AGB, W4TSU
20m: WA4PUC, WB4ENK
2m AM: W4MMW, W4ZGS, W4JNI, WA4QKD, WB4GMG, WN4GHM, WA4VSI, KH6EYO/4, WA4SAW

QSL BUREAU

(Continued from Page 1)

Like any other QSL Bureau head he has the one big gripe--the lack of envelopes on file. He also asks, "use that amount of postage you anticipate will cover an average monthly influx of cards rather than letting the cards pile up in the bureau for three to six months or longer." Pat says he's not at all surprised that many of the active DXers are the ones most guilty of this.

Don't forget about the new postal rates when sending in new envelopes to the bureau and reimburse the bureau now with some stamps to cover older envelopes.

Being an active league supporter and an active DX'er, Pat is not above climbing upon the soap box for a word or two. He feels strongly about the DXCC restrictions on station location.

"I had just made DXCC Honor Roll in Texas as W5PSB before moving to my new QTH in North Carolina. I now have about 250 countries here but I lack the 'push' or something to pursue the Honor Roll again... it's difficult and heartbreaking to think of those countries one can't work again when starting all over."

Recognizing that he is by no means the only one in that boat, Pat concludes, "company and executive transfers are a commonplace part of our lives nowadays, but our DXCC just does not recognize this facet of our life."

An open invitation is extended to hams passing through the area. K4HXF is located on North Carolina Highway 127 north of Hickory near Lake Hickory.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See "QSL BU BOX" each month in SKIP for mailing addresses.)

SPLATTER!!

Wonder how many of you know that Mariner IV received its commands from Earth and transmitted its pictures from Mars back to Earth, a distance of 134 million miles, with a radio transmitter power of only 10-1/2 watts!

2m FM: WA4EVU, W4UXW, W4A4WAX, K4KHV/4

Though it is not indicated, many of these stations operated more than one band and mode, with separate rigs.



Florida SKIP DIRECTORY

Each month you will find the following listings. Keep it handy. ARRL Officials are listed free. Florida Nets are listed free upon notification from net manager. Clubs listed for \$12.00 per year. (Free to clubs taking box ads elsewhere.) Any individual amateur may be listed for \$5.00 a year. (The ones who really care.) Let's fill up this page!

ARRL LISTINGS

Director, S.E. Division
CHARLES BOLVIN W4LTV
2210 S.W. 27th Lane
Miami, Florida 33133

Vice Director, S.E. Div.
A. L. HAMEL, K4SJH
220 N.E. 25th Street
Pompano Beach, Fla. 33064

SCM E. Florida
JESSE MORRIS, W4MVB
P.O. Box 1241
Jacksonville Beach
Florida 32051

SCM W. Florida
FRANK M. BUTLER, Jr. W4RKH
323 Elliott Rd., S.E.
Ft. Walton Beach, Fla. 32548

SEC East Florida
ANDY CLARK, W4IYT
41 Lenape Drive
Miami Springs, Fla. 33166

SEC West Florida
G.D. McKECHNIE, W4IKB
1000 N. 6th Street
Chipley, Florida 32428

Asst. SEC East Florida
TOM CHISHOLM, W4FP
P.O. Box 2273
Lakeland, Florida 33803

NET LISTINGS

QFN (all Florida)
Daily 2330 & 0300Z
3651 kc. Net Managers
W4BVE/ WA40HO

FSBA Sundays
2200Z on 3940 kc.

FSBEN Thursday
0030Z on 3940 kc.

KNIGHTS OF KILOCYCLE,
Sundays,
1200Z on 3910 kc.

GATOR NET (GN)
Daily 1330 on 3651 kc
and 1630 on 7115 kc
Net Manager: K4C00

TROPICAL PHONE TRAFFIC 'NET (TPTN)

Daily except Sunday, 2000z on
3945 kc.
Net Manager: W4SMK

SATN South Atlantic Traffic Net
Mon. - Sat. at 0330z on 3945 kc.
Net Manager WB4DSP

INDIVIDUAL LISTINGS

"SLIM" and BERTHA EGGERT
WA4AZZ/WA4BMC
1510-17th Avenue-North
Lake Worth, Florida 33460
Regards to all our friends.

CLUB LISTING

DADE RADIO CLUB, INC.
(W4NVU) 1st & 3rd Tuesday,
Museum of Science
3280 So. Miami Avenue
Miami, Florida
Mailing address: P.O. Box 73
Biscayne Annex
Miami, Florida 33152

NORTH FLORIDA AMATEUR
RADIO SOCIETY W4IZ
2nd Thursday, 7:30 P.M.
Duval CD Headquarters
107 Market Street
Jacksonville, Fla. 32202

ST. PETERSBURG AMATEUR
RADIO CLUB, Inc. W4GAC
Meetings: 1st Friday
FPC Lineman's Assembly Hall,
25th St. & 25th Ave., N.
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4026
For information phone:
544-1856 or 526-6731

FLORIDORA YLs (W4FE)
All licensed Florida YLs invited
to join.
Mailing address:
Pres. Shirley Hill, W4WPD
1710 Lambright,
Tampa, Fla. 33610
Nets: Tues. 1400Z on 3933 &
Sun. 1900Z on 7275 kc/s.

ALL CLUBS & NETS
ARE URGED TO JOIN
THIS DIRECTORY



NEEDLESS TO SAY, all Florida Two MARS members attending the Fort Pierce December 10th picnic had plenty to eat, thanks to Vince Padrick and XYL. 91 persons had a wonderful time. (photo by A4WHF)



ARMY MARS

by Joseph C. Patterson, AD4TZI

A highlight of 1967 for Fla. District Two was the annual picnic and get-together held at Fort Pierce on Sunday, December tenth at the QTH of Vince Padrick, Sr., AD4ESM. Festivities were scheduled for 1100 hours but several members arrived early and enjoyed breakfast coffee and doughnuts at the QTH of June Woolson, AD4ESL.

A few from a distance came to Fort Pierce on Saturday to give themselves more time for renewing old friendships.

A welcome guest was Wade L. Nelms who, with Mrs. Nelms, came down from Ft. McPherson to bestow his MARS Director's official blessing upon the proceeding. Following opening remarks by District Director, Gene Farthing, AA4KHT, Wade gave a short talk outlining some future programs for Third Army MARS.

Other invited guests included Fort Pierce City Commissioner Sam Lawder who welcomed MARS members upon behalf of the Mayor who was called out of the city unexpectedly. Also present as guests were Police Chief Vern Christianson and representatives from the Fort Pierce News-Tribune and local radio stations WARN and WIRA.

Following the invocation by Rev. C. Gail Norris, A4GJT, about 45 MARS members plus families and other guests to a total of 91, feasted on barbecued pork, fried chicken, baked beans potato salad, cold slaw, corn bread, coffee and iced tea. With appetites satisfied, they spent the rest of the day visiting, drawing for door prizes and auctioning off surplus junk box goodies donated by members to enrich the Florida Two memorial fund treasury, under auctioneer John Dulin, AD4GKF.

Florida Two members join with District Director, Gene, Procedure Officer Dick Smith, A4DRD, and other members of the official family in extending thanks to Vince Padrick for his hospitality. He well justified his reputation as master chef and gracious host. Thanks also go to Mrs. Padrick and other members of Vince's family for their labors in helping to make this such a memorable occasion.

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SCM's CORNER E/F

By JESSE H. MORRIS W4MVB

A few months ago when I was last seen in SKIP we looked into part of the SCM's appointment structure. We got through half of it and ran out of room. This month I would like to finish this and perhaps clear up a few other things.

In addition to the appointments appearing in the article in November SKIP, we have: Emergency Coordinator, Official Bulletin Station, and Official VHF Station. The Emergency Coordinator is appointed for each County and is responsible to SEC, W4IYT. He makes monthly reports to the SEC on the status of the emergency set-up in his county. The Official Bulletin Station is used to re-broadcast Official Bulletins so that all may get a chance to receive them. We try to cover all organized nets and as many local nets as possible. On the statewide nets I usually ask the net manager or RM/PAM for a candidate for OBS, the Official VHF Station is an appointment which goes to those interested mainly in VHF. From the standpoint of reporting this is the appointment which gives the most trouble. In all appointments (except OBS) reporting monthly to the SCM or SEC is a requirement. It is recommended by ARRL that if a station does not report for three consecutive months without explanation he be dropped. I don't always follow this to the letter since I am active enough to know which stations have left the area and which are just "taking it easy" for a couple of months.

One of the benefits derived from having an appointment is the participation in the quarterly "CD Parties". There is strong evidence that to some this is the only reason for holding an appointment. These are the minority though and usually get weeded out for non-reporting. I have been especially lax this year about this but during my second year I might hold a tighter line in this respect. I think it is going to be necessary to start all over again in the OVS department.

My next largest problem during my first year has been certificate endorsements. With some hundred and fifty certificates outstanding I never seem to have time to send out reminders to all who don't send their certificates in for the annual endorsement. All of you who have certificates which have not been endorsed in the past year please send it to me for endorsement and it will save me some work.

In addition to the appointments the other certificate which is issued by my office is the BPL traffic award. A BPL certificate is won by reporting a traffic total in excess of 500 or a total of one-hundred orginations plus deliveries. This certificate is issued by me automatically after I have received the report. After three such reports QST issues a BPL Medallion.

I hope the discussion of the appointments has cleared up some questions which apparently did exist. I hope during the coming year we can extend and improve our appointments here in eastern Florida. Your appointments are what my job is all about.

In closing I would like to thank all who waited patiently for the past couple of months. My routine was disrupted considerably. I would also like to thank all those who sent cards, letters, messages and flowers upon my brother's death.

Good luck to all in the coming year and 73. DE W4MVB.

NAVY MARS

(Continued from Page 9)

can be served thru various Navy MARS participants.

Lou Delson, run phone patches each week for N0AEZ, Earl Bullard who is at present operating from a club station in Alaska signing the call KL7AIZ. Earl's family in Pensacola Panhandle. She and her husband, greatly appreciate this.

In N.W. Florida, N0JJB, Toni of Pensacola continues as our most reliable contact with the

HAMBAR

HAMBAR services of radio equipment **ONLY** will be available to all our subscribers, amateurs or non-amateur, at a donation rate of 25¢ or more for ten (10) lines and 5¢ a word thereafter. There are approximately seven words to a line. Space permits only one ad per month please.

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An Advertising inch is measured 7/8" vertically on one column, i.e., 4 columns - 40 column inches to a page. Rate card by column inch supplied upon request. **FLORIDA SKIP, Advertising Department, P. O. Box 501, Miami Springs, Fla. 33166.**

FOR SALE: New B&W 850A, 3854, Collins equipment; 4-A filters 455J05, J15, J31, 35C2 low pass, SC101 station control. TS-175U & BC-221AH both a.c. supplies. FMTRU5v, 146.95 complete. New 10D mike, BC0348, Dumont scope 241. New 810 tube. New Elmac 4CX350F tubes. Imac 4-250A used. AR-2 speaker, Telrex TC99D, Wilcox CW3 5 mc. receiver with standard. Sell or swap for Lugers. Dan A. Summers K4TML, 1712 S.E. 14th St., Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33316. Phone Ja4-0918.

AMATEUR - WHOLESALE ELECTRONICS, (Div. of International Electronic Systems, Inc.), 280 Aragon Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134. Franchised distributor for Collins, Galaxy, Swan, BTI, Hy-Gain, Ameco, EZ-Way, etc. Write for current used equipment list. No one anywhere will beat our price. Have a better offer? We will top it!! We trade and we service what we sell. Come in and see us. Phone 305-444-6206. See our ad every Sunday in the Miami Herald, Column II-08. (Paid adv.)

WANTED: Command receiver 6-9 mcz. **FOR SALE:** Johnson 6N2 transmitter 100 w like new, requires external pwr supply and modulator, \$50.00 Merle L. Towle K4CYC, 1516 Meadowridge Dr., Valrico, Fla. 33594

FOR SALE: HW-32 with AC power supply, mike and speaker, \$135.00; Eldon R. Sherman K4PVD, 6240 S.W. 15th Ct., Pompano Beach, Fla. 33063 Tel. 972-3783.

FOR SALE: TV camera \$150.00; Heath Apache xmtr, needs power xmtr, \$65.00; Telex headphones, \$12.00. T. Windmiller, WA4YSG, 752 N.E. 128th St., No. Miami, Fla. 33161. Tel. 759-0451

FOR SALE: HQ-110A with clock, built in speaker, no scratches, like new, mint condition, \$90.00; Johnson 275 watt Matchbox with SWR bridge like new \$45.00. Ed Peckham, W4DSD, 344 S.E. 11 Ave., Pompano Beach, Fla. 33060. Tel. 941-4911.

WANTED: Set of ham bandspread coils for old HRO receivers, in restorable condition. Dick Blasco, WA4DHU 6270 N.W. 39th Terrace, Miami Springs, Fla. 33166, Tel. 887-1166

WANTED: Hallicrafters SX-140 communications receiver. Must be in excellent condition both electrically and physically. Write Zach Bruce, WA4TJS, P.O. Box 1328, Leesburg, Florida, 32748

FOR SALE: VHF complete 6 meter station Clegg 99 new in carton; Drake filter new; xtal microphone and stand with cord and mike plug; new VFO; 2 crystals; 3-element beam. All perfect and ready to go, will ship. Make offer in writing to Walt Stock, W4HS, 117 N.W. 100 St., Miami Shores, Fla. 33150

FOR SALE: Mosley TA33 Jr, 30 ft. tower and roter, \$100.00; Telrex 2-element Mini-Beam for 20 meters \$25.00 **WANTED:** HW-12A or HW-22A Elvis H. Young W4UHB, 624 - 41st St., W. Palm Beach, Fla. 33407

FOR SALE: Heath capacitor checker, ndw, also Heath color bar generator, like new and factory aligned. Must see to appreciate. Both \$75. Ken Wayne K4VOF, 4281 S.W. 3rd St., Miami, Fla. 33134, Tel. 444-8710

WANTED: Conversion information on Bendix MRT-9 surplus transceiver. Cash for manual, information or conversion of my units to 2 meter FM. Lou Jones, W4PJG, Box 1647, Ft. Meyers, Fla. 33902

FOR SALE: Collins 75S-1 with Waters notch filter, \$300.00. Collins 32S-1, \$350.00. Both are in clean A-1 condition. Drake Hybrid phone patch, \$10.00; EICO 145A MultiSignal Tracer kit, in original sealed factory carton, never opened, \$20.00 Frank Nankin, K4BNZ, 1000 - 88th Street, Surfside, Fla. Tel 866-2351

FOR SALE: 4-1000A grounded grid linear 3 to 30 mHz, solid state power supply. Amplifier capable of FR in excess of 2 kw DC input and is constructed with overrated components. Four foot relay rack on coasters. Two spare 4-1000A \$250.00; TA33Sr. tri-band Mosley Beam, \$70.00. L. L. Peterson, W4LED, 2632 Derbyshire Rd., Maitland, Florida. 32751. Tel. 838-0807.

FOR SALE: SBE-33 transceiver, 75, 40, 20 and 15 mtrs, USB/LSB 70 watt completely solid state except for final, \$200.00 or best offer. Homer D. Alexander, WB4GAI, Rt. #3, Box 861, Lutz, Fla. 33549

TRADE: Beautiful Hagstrom Slimline, dual pick-up, 12 string electric guitar and Fender Deluxe amplifier w/tremolo for 75S3B, etc., or TK-62 w/VFO, converters and antennas, etc. Also want 40-45 ft tower with H.D. rotator. Hank Eschmann WN4HMB, 1285A Nevada Ave., Homestead, Fla. 33030 Tel 257-5415

FOR SALE: Late Collins KWS-1 (serial 5600), KWM-2, 516F-2 AC supply, Waters Q-multiplier. All like new, mint condition, also new Swan 500 w/new 117x power supply. S. E. Adcock W4GL, 1340 N.E. 103 St., Miami, Fla. 33138

FOR SALE: Drake TR-4, used mobile for only 15 hours, like new condition. Webster antenna, speaker, mike, a.c. and d.c. power supplies, complete with mobile mounting brackets. \$595. cash. Bert Osburn W4MF, 1608 Hixson Pike, Chattanooga, Tenn. 37405.

FOR SALE to highest bidder: 3-4CX1000A, 6-5894, 4-829B, 2-4-1000A, 2- 4X150G, 7- 4X150A, 3-4X150B, all tubes brand new, never used and in factory sealed cartons. Will sell one or all. Also have socket and chimney for 4CX-1000A tube. G. D. McKechnie, W4KCB, Box 545, Chipley, Fla. 32428. Tel. Area code 904- 638-0064 nights, 904-638-0250 ext. 57 days.

FOR SALE: DX-60A mint condition, one year old, with new final, \$50.00 David R. Hal, WB4EIN, 1800 Bayou Blvd., Pensacola, Fla. 32503

FOR SALE: From the estate of Major James D. Felsenheld, K4BY; receiver, excellent cond, solid oak desk w/ linoleum top with pidgeon hole and bookcase and typewriter, other short wave incidentals. This is an excellent buy. Laura D. Felsenheld, 3404 27th St., W., Bradenton, Fla. 33505. Tel. 742-5961

FOR SALE: Gonset Communicator III-6 meters with 6/12/110 volt supplies, \$130.00; EICO 753 triband transceiver with 751 pwr supp. \$190.00. **WANTED:** SB-34, 275 watt matchbox, SB-101. John Deegan, WA4QLZ, 13420 S.W. 77th Ave., Miami, Fla. 33156, Tel. 238-5265

TYPETRONICS - Your Florida source for teletype machines, parts, teroids, etc. Note: I buy, too. Fred Schmidt, W4NYF, Box 6673, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33311. Call LU3-1340 after 6 p.m. (paid adv)

WANTED: B&W or Air Dux 1KW Pi-Network. 15 Mfd @4000 v oil filled capacitor. **FOR SALE:** 5 - 4x150-A, 4 - 2x250-B, 2 - 4CX250B, all the above are used. Bob Balrd K4BWO, 202 Leon St., St. Augustine, Fla. 32084

NOTICE: SKIP HAMBARS really pay off! After several years of trying to obtain a Hickock Manual on the 191-X, SKIP subscriber Ed Flynn, W9IHD in Chicago, Ill. comes thru in less than two weeks. My sincere thanks. Pat Murphy, K4AO, Miami Springs, Fla. 33166 (paid adv)

WANTED: All Florida ECs mail in your annual SET reports to your SEC and ARRL NOW. Don't put it off! Let's keep Florida high on the national standings. W4FP, W4YIT and W4KCB. Bless you.

NEEDED more station, club and group photos. Any size as long as they are clear. Sorry can't use color. Come on - don't be shy. **EDITOR**

DON'T FORGET the new W4-K4 QSL Bureau address is: W.L. Parrish K4-HXF, RFD 5 Box 80A, Hickory, N.C. 28601. See boxed ad elsewhere each month. - AC

AUCTIONFEST: The twelfth annual Broward Amateur Auctionfest will be held on February 17th at Chaminade High School, 500 North 51st Ave. (One block north of Hollywood Blvd.), Hollywood, Fla. Turn your unused equipment into cash. Doors open at 8:00 A.M., auction begins at 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM. Free coffee. (Pd. adv.)

FREE! Yes, that's right **FREE.** FLA. SKIP is again mailing their famous little calendar (1968 that is) to all it's subscribers. Just the right size in the

LETTERS TO EDITOR

(Continued from Page 2)

You could just take a Xmtr? Revr and report on each of them each month. This was a thought and I thought I would ask you.

73,
David R. Hall WB4EIN
Pensacola.

(David: We'd like to, but we receive no info on such items from the manufacturers.)

Editor:

Read article on new term K "rent-a-car" is supposed to mean one thousand cycles per second. I have been an active ham for over forty years and when did they change "KC" from meaning Kilocycles per second?

Also please have the HAMBAR hams put in their address and/or telephone number not a P.O. Box. I tried and gave up trying to answer an ad last month.

73's
Hamlin C. King, K4GU
Zephyrhills, Fla.

(**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Agreed Ham. We request full name, call, address, phone and ZIP numbers on all ads. Some guys fail to give this info and it requires much research on OUR part to get it in. Come on HAMBAR-ers we've got enough problems as it is.)

Relative to the letters recently in Skip about the fone-patch controversy, I would like to make a few observations of my own as a past master of the fone-patch industry.

Regardless of the many pro's or con's it is here to stay. I have also come across individuals who clamor for those seeking a fone-patch to use the telephone and a few days later these same individuals are calling certain areas for fone-patches. There is much criticism however, very little constructive criticism. It is my opinion that what this situation needs is a "Reciprocal Fone-patch Clearing House" which should operate much like a matrimonial agency, to pair up amateurs who have relatives in their respective cities, which would cut down considerably the amount of CQ-ing on the air. Of course there would be a few details to work out, but that would be up to the organizers of the "Clearing House." This does apply to emergency traffic which still can be handled by the various nets now in operation.

Should Florida Skip want to become involved, you can count on yours truly for some ideas.

With very 73,
Moe Stabin
K4DJW

ham shack. Shows last, present and next month in large clear numbers. Just drop a self-addressed stamped envelope (6" or larger) to: SKIP, BOX 501, Miami Springs, Fla. 33166 and we'll shoot it right back to you. OK?

BROWARD Amateur Radio Club, Inc. W4AB meets 2nd Wednesday of month at the Broward County Medical Building, 2200 S. Andrews Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. at 8 p.m. See Auctionfest ad elsewhere in HAMBARS. (Pd. adv.)

Support SKIP Advertisers

The Solid State of the Art...

A continued series dealing with the theory and practices of
SOLID STATE or the SEMI-CONDUCTOR types of electronic components.

by EARL SPENCER, K4FPU

CHAPTER TWO: ATOMIC STRUCTURES

The Atom is the basis for everything. It is the smallest particle usable to man and is also the most powerful usable particle of matter now known to man. Matter exists in three states; Solid, Liquid and a Gaseous state. These may be classified as either a compound or an element. All elements are made up of Atoms. Because each atom is a different individual, the type of atom will determine the make up character of an element. An element is a basic material and is defined as a substance that can not be made by a chemical change or union of different substances. Copper, Iron and gold are such elements. We know it is impossible for man to make pure Copper, Iron or gold, therefore it is impossible for man to create an element. The above items are called solid elements. Oxygen and hydrogen for instance are known gaseous elements.

No matter how finely these elements may be broken down by any means whatever, the tiniest speck left will be called an atom and will still retain all the characteristics of that pure element.

Matter is also found in two states called atoms and molecules. The molecule is the smallest particle of matter that by itself will still retain all the aspects of the original substance. Atoms and molecules are the basis for compounds. A compound is a substance having more than one element and having properties different from those which make it up. Water is a compound, having 2 parts hydrogen and 1 part oxygen as its basic makeup.

The atom is defined as the smallest part of an element that can partake of chemical change. Each atom of a particular element is identical in mass but each atom will differ in mass from that of atoms of different elements. Each atom of a different element type has a definite Atomic code or number to identify it.

ATOMIC STRUCTURE

Refer to Fig. 1. Note the difference in MASS between the GERMANIUM atom and the SILICON atom. It can readily be seen that the Germanium atom has a larger mass than that of the Silicon Atom. Since there are 102 known different elements; there are then 102 different atomic masses, all basically the same in structure as the two in the illustration but each one containing more or less neutrons and electrons; dictated of course by the atomic mass or weight. By chemically combining different atoms man can produce different materials but not different ELEMENTS.

The atom can be subdivided into what is known as sub atomic particles. Individual atoms may be thought of as a tiny solar system with the nucleus as the sun and the electrons as the planets in their orbits around the sun. Note in Fig. 1 that the nucleus has a positive charge while the electrons around it possess a negative charge. This negative charge is equal in the total of all the electrons to the positive charge of the nucleus or core of the atom. When in this state the atom will be in an electrically neutral state. The attracting power of the positive charge of the nucleus, acting like a sort of gravitational force, holds the electrons in their orbits and prevents their flying off into space. In all neutral atoms the positive charge of the nucleus equals the total negative charge of the electron field. If an atom contained more electrons than protons then it would be a negatively charged atom. Similarly if an atom contained more protons than electrons it would be positively charged. The attractive force within the atom which holds it together is very powerful, however, in an atom which has many rings, certain electrons in the outermost rings are so far from the nucleus that they are not as tightly restrained as those nearer the nucleus. A few of these outlying electrons therefore are able to

fly into the empty spaces in their home atom and also between adjacent atoms. These wandering electrons are known as free electrons. Free electrons may be attracted by nearby external positive charges such as the near proximity of another atom or they may be repelled by a similar negative charge. They may also be deflected from their intended path by the presence of a magnetic field.

While most atoms are neutral, an atom which has lost one or more electrons has less negative charges. Reversal of this is the same, i.e. gaining electrons from some source will throw the atom into a definite negative charge. Such atoms are called charged atoms, either negatively or positively. This is known as a state of IONIZATION. This state may be effected by many different means. Close proximity of electrical fields, x-rays, heat, pressure (Both physically and chemically), light rays and collision between two or more speeding atoms within a substance.

Free electrons can be caused to drift through a piece of suitable material. Although this movement appears to be continuous, it is in fact very intermittent. When an atom's electron moves out of its home orbit into that of a neighboring atom it will be replaced by that of an adjacent atom, which will be replaced by one from a near by atom and so on down the line. This drift of electrons is the basis for and what is commonly known to us as an ELECTRIC CURRENT. This flow of current is heaviest in materials which possess or have many free electrons available. These materials are called CONDUCTORS. Materials which have few or no free electrons cannot support a current flow and are called INSULATORS.

Next Month:

SEMI-CONDUCTOR MATERIALS IN PARTICULAR

